The Barometer Program
Meet our Leadership Coalition

Professor David Owens

Professor of Diabetes and Clinical Lead for Diabetes Related Retinopathy, Swansea University, UK
Emeritus Professor of Diabetes, Cardiff University, UK

David Owens is Professor of Diabetes at Swansea University, UK and the Clinical Lead for Diabetes Related Retinopathy in the Diabetes Research Group, Swansea University Medical School. In addition, he is Emeritus Professor of Diabetes at Cardiff University, UK.

Professor Owens' research spans diabetes and ophthalmology, including glucose monitoring and variability, diabetes complications, and diabetic eye diseases, including diabetic retinopathy (DR) and diabetic maculopathy, and he has published over 120 peer-reviewed articles. Notably, his work in DR includes the use of automated analysis and artificial intelligence of retinal images for the prediction of other diabetes-related complications (e.g., cardiovascular disease, stroke, and dementia). He is also involved with the use of data derived from the Secure Anonymized Information Linkage (SAIL) databank for research on epidemiology, management and clinical outcomes involving people with diabetes.

Professor Owens works closely with the International Diabetes Federation to produce educational materials on diabetes-related eye disease and programs on diabetes complications. Furthermore, he has spent many years supporting the development of diabetes services, including a DR screening program and a diabetic footcare service, in a number of lower-resource countries, including Mauritius, Trinidad and Tobago, and Peru. He was awarded the Royal College of Physicians International Prize for Excellence in Patient Care for this work in 2018 alongside two of his colleagues at Swansea University and Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Professor Owens was awarded a CBE in 2001 for services in diabetic care for the UK National Health Service, in addition to the Bupa Foundation Clinical Excellence Award in 1999.